MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL ARCHIVES CONFERENCE

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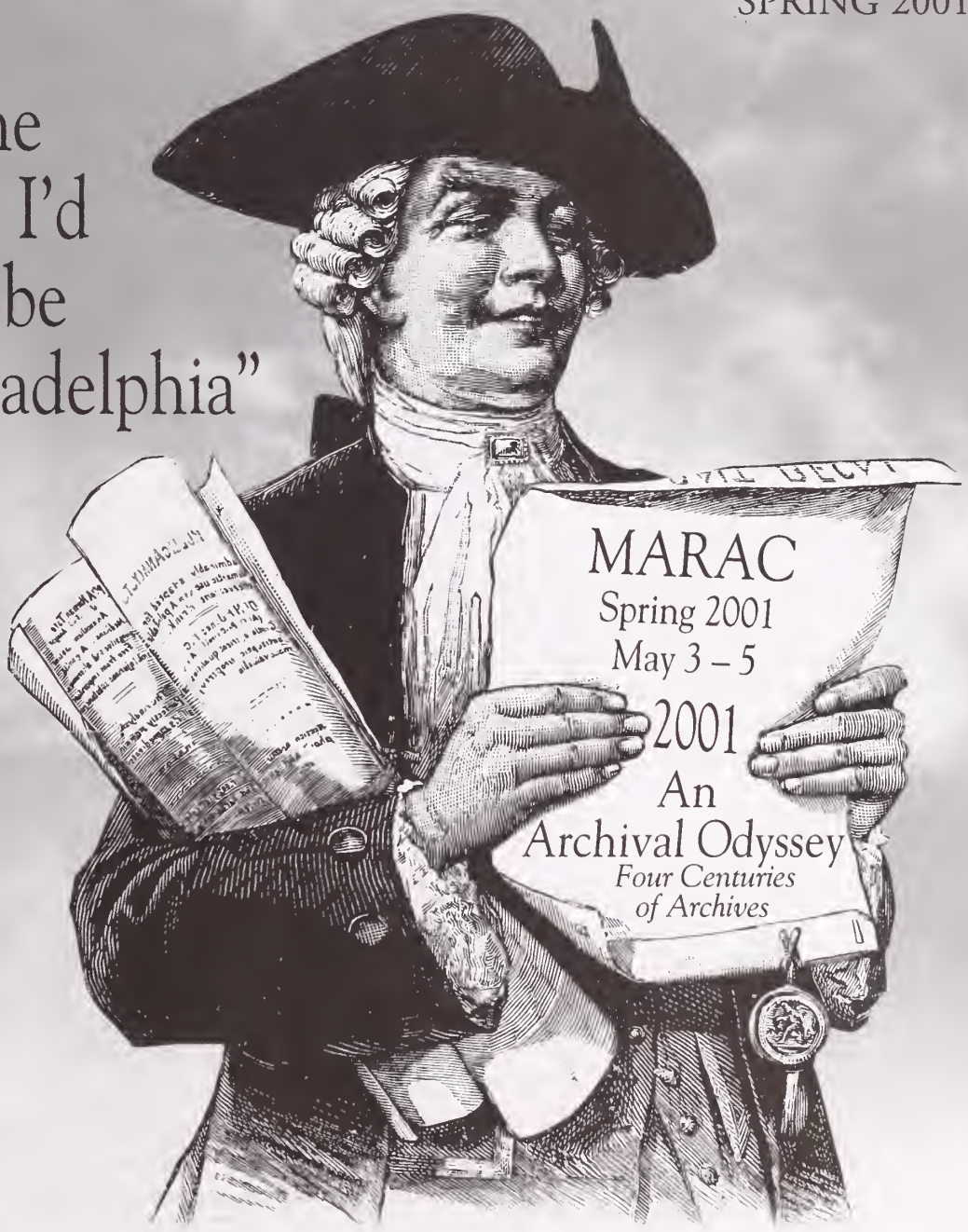
"On the whole, I'd rather be in Philadelphia"



From The Chair

As I write this message, I am reviewing the program for MARAC Spring 2001 in Philadelphia. Philadelphia has long been one of my favorite major cities, ever since graduate school when I read Carl and Jessica Bridenbaugh's *Rebels and Gentlemen: Philadelphia in the Age of Franklin*. As you might also imagine, Benjamin Franklin is one of my favorite founding fathers. With the conference hotel in the middle of downtown, there should be no lack of things to do. The program is full of excellent opportunities for archival education. The Program Committee Co-Chairs, Joan Echtenkamp Klein and Dianne Windham Shaw, and Local Arrangements Co-Chairs Margaret Jerrido and Lisa Mangiafico have put together a first class program in an ideal location. And if you do have a little time to leave the hotel, a large piece of American history awaits just outside the door. See you there!

Speaking of conferences, the financials are in for the joint conference with MAC in Cleveland last fall, and both organizations shared a profit. MARAC received a check for over $4,000. So Cleveland was both a very good conference and a profitable one. This good news reassured us all, particularly those involved in conference planning (Meetings Coordinating Committee [MCC], Local and Program Arrangements). As most of you already know, Marsha Trimble and MCC have been taking a very close look at how MARAC plans and carries out its conferences, to find out what kind of structural changes might benefit both programs and finances. You will be hearing more about this subject.

On another topic, the Ad Hoc Committee to Review Contract Performance is currently sifting through proposals from management firms to take up administrative services for MARAC when the current contract expires at the end of June. Once the process is complete, the committee will make a recommendation to the Steering Committee regarding a new contract.

Finally, this is my last column as your Chair, and I wanted to take a moment to talk about my experience. Serving as the Chair of MARAC has been a very positive experience for me, particularly the first-hand view of the enormous amount of support and dedication from the membership that makes this organization operate so well. One look at a Steering Committee meeting or a MARAC Conference shows the planning and hard work that set the stage for the event. It has been a learning experience for me, and it reinforces my belief in the importance of MARAC to the archival profession. I encourage all of you to become involved and stay involved with this organization. It is well worth it.

James Byers, Chair
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The MARAC Memorial Fund

At its last meeting on January 19, the MARAC Steering Committee voted to establish the new MARAC Memorial Fund. And behind this simple declaration lies an interesting story. Last fall, MARAC lost two very dedicated and long term members, Arthur Breton and Brother Denis Sennett. Both served MARAC well for many years — Arthur as Chair and Brother Denis as Secretary. They also shared an abiding interest in archival education. Before long, those in MARAC who knew the two began to discuss the creation of a scholarship or fund, so I placed the issue on the Steering Committee agenda for discussion.

Shortly before the meeting, a MARAC member (who wishes to remain anonymous) contacted me regarding a grant to establish a fund for educational purposes. This was no simple donation, however. It was a challenge grant — $2,000 to be matched by the Steering Committee and Committee Chairs. The terms of the challenge specified that either contributions or pledges must be made within one month of the Steering Committee meeting, and pledges paid within a year. The donor agreed that the grant could be set up as a memorial fund, providing that its primary purpose was for education.

The Steering Committee and Committee Chairs took up the challenge and set up the MARAC Memorial Fund in memory of Arthur Breton and Brother Denis Sennett. Immediate contributions quickly met, then exceeded the goal. Currently $2,310 has been raised, the majority in direct contributions. It speaks volumes that those who give their time and effort to managing MARAC so enthusiastically embraced the challenge presented by our anonymous donor.

The Memorial Fund is now in operation, and any MARAC member can contribute. The $2,000 grant and the matching funds will be invested to earn monies to support MARAC's educational initiatives, such as scholarships. Because MARAC is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, contributions are tax deductible. A newly established special committee, the MARAC Development Committee, is working with these funds. For more information about the fund or to make a contribution, contact Tom Connors, Chair of the Development Committee; Rebecca Collier, MARAC Treasurer, or me.

— James Byers

Monsignor William Noe Field,

December 22, 1915 — December 3, 2000

Monsignor Field, 84, a fixture at Seton Hall University, where he taught, delivered provocative homilies and advocated for school history and archival preservation passed away in December last year. Born in Orange, NJ, in 1915, Monsignor Field began Seton Hall Preparatory School in 1927 and four years later enrolled at Seton Hall College, then entered the Immaculate Conception Seminary of Seton Hall.

Ordained in 1940, Monsignor Field soon began teaching English literature, grammar and religion at Seton Hall Prep, and became a part-time faculty member at Seton Hall College. Monsignor Field's ultimate position as head administrator of the libraries and archivist crowned a life's work at Seton Hall that included appointments as professor of English, chair of the undergraduate and graduate English departments, director of off-campus libraries, and then in 1963, director of university libraries.

From 1982 until the time of his death, Monsignor Field served as Curator of Rare Books and Archives, and Director of Special Collections for the Seton Hall University Libraries. He also volunteered his services as an archivist at the North American College in Rome. He wrote a book of poetry titled *Hear My Heart* (1951) and served as co-author and editor for *The Bishops of Newark, 1853 – 1978* (1978). Past president of the Metropolitan Catholic Library Association, trustee of the National Catholic Archivist Society, and member of the New Jersey Catholic Historical Records Commission, Monsignor Field will be missed by many.

— Alan Delozier

MID-ATLANTIC REGIONAL ARCHIVES CONFERENCE

Treasurer's Report, Expenditure Detail
Fiscal Year 2001

MARAC EXPENDITURE DETAIL -- FY 2001

Category	Budget	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total	% of Budget	2000 Actual
General								
Secretary	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$0 00
Nat'l Coordinating Cmte	$750 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$800 00
Taxes & Filing Fees	$20 00	$75 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$75 00	375%	$525 43
Legal - Insurance	$350 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$350 00
Subtotal	**$1,120.00**	**$75.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$75.00**	**7%**	**$1,675.43**
Administrator								
Office/Postage	$300 00	$363 63	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$363 63	121%	$820 86
Printing/Stationary	$150 00	($8 55)	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	($8 55)	-6%	$217 84
K&A Management Fee	$25,000 00	$6,249 99	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$6,249 99	25%	$31,311 51
Fax Costs	$15 00	$1 31	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$1 31	9%	$16 48
Telephone	$300 00	$222.34	$0 00	$0 00	0	$222 34	74%	$807 78
Mailing Costs								
Mail Service Fee	$20 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$102 14
MAA	$3,000 00	$638 39	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$638 39	21%	$3,153 59
Membership Renewal	$300 00	$183 31	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$183 31	61%	$1,270 28
Ballots	$700 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$623 70
Directory	$800 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$1,952 01
Publications/Other	$50 00	$22 79	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$22 79	46%	$33 79
Subtotal	**$30,635.00**	**$7,673.21**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$7,673.21**	**25%**	**$40,309.98**
Treasurer								
Postage--Bank Charges	$100.00	$58 13	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$58 13	58%	$478 99
Accountant	$2,200 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$2,175 00
Subtotal	**$2,300.00**	**$58.13**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$58.13**	**3%**	**$2,653.99**
State Caucuses	**$690.00**	**$10.41**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$10.41**	**2%**	**$602.04**
Committees								
Steering	$1,800 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$2,422 45
Nominating	$800 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$778 53
Finance	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$0 00
Finding Aids Award	$150 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$35 08
Custer Award	$50 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$9 25
Membership Development	$280 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$373 55
Outreach	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$1,002 29
Meetings Coordinating	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$278 51
Education	$100 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$16 95
Subtotal	**$3,180.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**0%**	**$4,916.61**
Publications								
Meetings	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$0 00
Mid-Atlantic Archivist	$10,800 00	$3,272 83	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$3,272 83	30%	$12,002 41
Technical Leaflets	$1,600 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$471 74
Membership Directory	$2,800 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$3,815 18
Symposia	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$0 00
Membership Brochure	$200 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$0 00
Subtotal	**$15,400.00**	**$3,272.83**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$3,272.83**	**21%**	**$16,289.33**
MARAC Archivist	$500.00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$500 00
Awards	$750 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$500 00
Conference Expenses	$2,000 00	$1,625 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$1,625 00	81%	$54 965 67
MARAC Scholarship	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$1,755 00
Miscellaneous	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	$0 00	0%	$10 00
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$56,575.00**	**$12,714.58**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$0.00**	**$12,714.58**	**22%**	**$124,178.05**

Session Abstracts — Fall 2000

The joint meeting of MAC and MARAC in the Fall of 2000 gave us new formats for continuing conversations. In break-out sessions and point-counterpoint debates, we joined our heartland colleagues in discussions of the material in our care, of our researchers and employers, of our shared professional concerns and our common digital future. Here are a select set of session abstracts from Cleveland.

Thanks to editor Jefferson Moak and contributors Margaret Buzynski-Bays, Helen Conger, Karen Fishman, Melissa Gottwald, Fred Lautzenheiser, Christine Lutz, Lisa Mangiafico, Bonita Smith, Tom Steman, and Pat Virgil.

Researchers' & Archivists' Summit

Moderator: *Stephen Charter, Bowling Green State University.*
Speakers*: Mark Tebeau, Cleveland State University; Barbara Waitkus Billings, Western Reserve Historical Society; Dave Davis, Cleveland Plain Dealer*

Charter opened with a typical archival problem: researchers who need answers yesterday, who can't understand why full-text primary sources aren't on the web, and why files can't be immediately emailed; researchers who just don't understand. How, he asked panelists and audience alike, can archivist and researcher move toward a common understanding? Tebeau suggested "profiling" researchers by their interests and needs, noting that while they may be unable to describe it, most researchers can recognize what is relevant. Because the reference interview can be painful, Tebeau said, archivists need better mechanisms for using researchers' knowledge. For example, some might help process unorganized collections.

With the casual comment that despite his use of online catalogs, he prefers the serendipitous anomalies of old-fashioned cards, Tebeau sparked a heated debate, from which several salient points emerged. The importance of professional ethics and psychological understanding came up: archivists should reassure patrons on confidentiality issues (who is researching what) and explain the purpose of the reference interview (to help the researcher). The exit interview was suggested as an important tool for greater understanding. Respect from historians for the credentials and professionalism of archivists was mentioned. Finally, it was suggested that archivists step into the researcher's role to experience the 'other' side.

Billings began by asking if the same rules applied to all researchers all the time. Her answer, yes and no: access does vary according to researcher and situation. In addition, researchers who make the effort to develop relationships with archivists find it easier to negotiate necessary exceptions. The role of fees and the definition of 'reasonable' underscored the inequality among researchers that charging for service creates. What commercial newspapers and documentary crews can easily afford may be beyond the means of educators, students and independent researchers. The audience again contributed: fees generally go back collection preservation; sliding fee scales help level the playing field; and better funding, especially to state archives, could eliminate fees. Billings concluded by noting that the huge increase in phone, fax, e-mail requests is frequently handled via triage.

Davis affirmed that the reporter's art is getting what is needed when it's needed. His approach — a phone call followed by a letter — often pays off with access to well-cared-for collections that may contain critical nuggets of information or gold mines of solid stories. Discussion ensued about ways the press can work with and support archivists. Audience members suggested citing collections and repositories properly, acknowledging use of photographs, consulting their own in-house libraries first, thanking archivists (or more importantly, their bosses), and providing final copies to the archives. Though many researchers' agreement stipulate the latter, archivists find it difficult to enforce. Researchers must be reminded that returning copies of their work to source repositories helps to support collections by proving their utility.

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Are All Researchers Created Equal?

Moderator: *Frank Boles, Clarke Historical Library, Central Michigan University.* ***Speakers****: Danna Bell-Russell, National Digital Library, Library of Congress; and John J. Treanor, Archdiocese of Chicago.*

Answering the session title with a 'no,' Bell-Russell indicated that each institution must look at researchers through its own mission statement. The National Digital Library deals with their own constituency before helping others, professional ethics notwithstanding. Treanor recast the question: are all researchers given equal access? Treanor stated that open collections should be open to all. Further, he indicated that that if his superiors allowed someone access to records that are closed for use (such as sacramental records), he would quit.

The discussion moved to reference requests. Are certain researchers taken ahead of others, and how does that affect those passed by? Bell-Russell affirmed that a hierarchy exists. For example, donors' requests generally take precedence, possibly creating the impression that other patrons suffer, especially those who have never used an archives. Staff time with researchers is thus limited, but may be made up made up through handouts, workshops, websites, and other resources.

Next came the questions of donor-approved access to collections and defining 'qualified' researchers. After much debate, Treanor opined that a qualified researcher was anyone who walked into his archives and asked an intelligent question. Bell-Russell agreed with the unfairness of arbitrary donor approval, but pointed out that even the Library of Congress restricts researchers by age. The discussion shifted to differences in handling requests by phone, mail, e-mail, and in person. Audience members stated that the method of contact often influenced the amount of time and effort spent on a give request. Treanor held that other issues, like cost, often lead to denying long-distance requests for large amounts of photocopying. Such a drain of resources on the archives may provide unequal access to patrons.

Electronic Epiphanies and Archival Description

Speakers: *Jill Tatem, Case Western Reserve University; Bradley Westbrook, University of California-San Diego; and Nicolas Maftei, Nicolas Maftei Consulting*

Tatem advocated user-centered finding aids, based on the archivist's observations and the idea that most users — the "hunter-gatherers" — prefer informal, easily accessible sources. Archivists should determine a researcher's domain knowledge (understanding of topics and sources); system knowledge (comprehension of provenance, familiarity with finding aids); and use frequency (previous visits). Challenges include defining the initial question and modifying the scope as research progresses from information need through system selection and orientation, data acquisition, and ultimate use. Tatem suggested that most users need a finding aid conducive to browsing, beginning with an overview and ordered by sub-topic.

Westbrook spoke about relational databases and Encoded Archival Description (EAD). Finding aids for archives and manuscript collections appear in both SGML and HTML with links to MARC records in UCSD's library catalog. The positive results of such integrated systems are lower training costs, enhanced reference service, authority control, data standardization and portability, and variable outputs such as statistical reports, collection guides, and collection abstracts. However, staff must have database and programming skills, software must be updated, and the limited options for collection arrangement/hierarchy must be considered.

In *How to Make Computers Do the Encoding! A Database Strategy for the Automation of Finding Aids*, Maftei demonstrated an object oriented database management system (using GENCAT) which supports open hierarchical structures, automatically converts MARC records to SGML/EAD encoded finding aids, and permits online search and retrieval. The system is turnkey, but expensive.

Authenticity and Preservation of Electronic Records: US-InterPARES

Moderator: *Beth Yakel, University of Michigan.* ***Speakers****: Fynnette Eaton, Smithsonian Institution; Ciaran Trace, University of California-Los Angeles; and Mark Giguere, NARA*

Eaton related the history of InterPARES, its goals and mission, and the four major research domains. She described the case study methodology in detail and discussed the considerable challenge of developing an internationally accepted set of archival terminology. Phil Eppard read Ciaran Trace's paper on the UCLA's data analysis team, which has conducted 16 studies analyzing electronic document and data structure in order to build a template for future analysis using conventions such as evidential, organizational and empiric information. The team's goal is to describe the elements common to all electronic records that are needed to verify reliability and authenticity.

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Giguere, NARA's administrator and coordinator for the Inter-PARES project, gave an overview of the study groups. Drawing on his responsibility for assuring that the project's end results are usable in current archival systems, Giguere demonstrated how the IDEF modeling system allowed Inter-PARES to capture and analyze the structure and processes of electronic records systems.

Electronic Records: Access and Use

Moderator: *Edward A. Galloway, Digital Research Library, University of Pittsburgh.* ***Speakers****: Nancy Deromedi, Bentley Library, University of Michigan; Mark Salling, Northern Ohio Data and Information Service, Cleveland State University; Virginia Ainslie, Ainslie & Associates; and Jack Licate, Cleveland Clinic Foundation*

Deromedi described the Bentley's first electronic acquisition, the James J. Duderstadt collection, comprising 14 linear feet of paper and 2500 digital files. Maintaining original format and allowing online access introduced the staff to complex issues such as designing a comprehensive system, searching and navigating the collection, providing reference service, using digital research tools, creating electronic interfaces, and formulating practices and policies. The questions of registering on-line users and conveying the fact that the records are original documents remain, but Deromedi welcomed the audience to visit http://www.umich.edu/~bhl and explore the collection.

Salling focused on Geographic Information Systems (GIS), which he defined as software, hardware, data and people organized into a database system that captures, stores, retrieves, analyses and displays spatial data. More than a collection of maps, GIS is a way to create maps. To illustrate, Salling pulled crime information from the city police, locations of abandoned buildings from the housing department and recent property prices from the recorder's office, then layered the data onto a map of a Cleveland ward, creating a graphical representation that succinctly replaces pages of narrative text and statistical tables.

Ainslie, a lobbyist for non-profits, medical institutions and Chambers of Commerce, discussed her use if the Federal Assistance Awards Data System. Elected officials rarely know how federal monies are distributed, according to Ainslie, so she draws on the Data System as back up to requests for government funding. One example was her advocacy for the City of Cleveland for bridge rehabilitation funds.

Licate, a historical geographer by training, suggested that speed of access is perhaps the most significant issue in the using electronic records. Contrasting research he undertook in various Mexican archives with the almost instantaneous access to electronic information, Licate teased out a few caveats. Researchers must use the same analytical and evaluative techniques — appraising the source, accuracy, strengths and weaknesses of the data, and authenticating and verifying the records — with electronic materials as they would with textual documents.

Appraisal Approaches to Electronic Records

Moderator: *Robert Horton, Minnesota State Archives, Minnesota Historical Society.* ***Speakers****: Cal Lee, Kansas State Historical Society; Gregory S. Hunter, Palmer School of Library and Information Science, Long Island University; and Lee Stout, Penn State University Archives*

Discussing meaningful ways to mine the layers of data generated by research, Lee suggested that computer-assisted searching be personalized through retrieval agents — small information filtering programs that reflect the needs and preferences of each researcher. Developed from existing software, such agents would utilize pattern matching, i.e. locating and prioritizing documents based on a model of previously selected information.

Hunter explored appraisal strategy for web sites through an overview of current practice, methods for determining value and ways to handle changing material to meet the requirements of archival preservation. Hunter focused on determining the accountability risks of a site — how much exposure does an organization risk in presenting material on its webpages. Though the website "snapshot" has become a common tool, Hunter suggested that it may be inadequate for high profile websites with deep, controversial, heavily interlinked and/or rapidly changing content.

Stout described the work of the American team of Inter-PARES, the international research project investigating methods of preserving the integrity and reliability of electronic records over time. The American Task Group has been exploring appraisal criteria and methods, Stout noted, with a critical emphasis on the need to appraise agency functions rather than individual records. Another finding of the group centers on timing: archival considerations should be built into electronic systems, as retrograde modifications puts the integrity of the system at risk.

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The Role of Popular Culture

Moderator: *Alison Scott, Harvard University.* ***Speakers:*** *Shirley Wajda, Kent State University; Randall Scott, Michigan State University; and Lorna Toolis, Toronto Public Library*

Is popular culture a valid and authentic subject area for archival collections, and should repositories spend money on such materials? Panelists defined 'popular culture' individually and discussed this often controversial area in terms of their respective institutions, and within the profession.

As a Comics Bibliographer, Scott spoke of his mission as a professional chance. Though not generally considered academic material, comics, he argued, provide a "diversified picture" perhaps lacking in more traditional materials. Toolis, who maintains a collection of science fiction and fantasy, noted that popular culture will not be validated until time has passed. What may be considered "throwaway culture" actually reflects the true individual interests of a given period, as well as the broader ongoing concerns of a society.

History professor Wajda described encounters with scholars who thought her interests in ephemera and pop culture invalid. The study of such non-traditional material provides new ways of looking at old things, and collections with a focus on popular culture support and validate these views. Scott concluded the discussion with the comment that when librarians and archivists collect popular culture, they both predict and influence what will be important and relevant, and help define popular culture.

Confidential Records in State Archives

Moderator: *Roland M. Baumann, Oberlin College.* ***Speakers:*** *F. Gerald Hanfield, Jr., Indiana Commission on Public Records; David J. Johnson, State Archives of Michigan; and Menzi L. Behrnd-Klodt, Pleasant Company/Klodt Associates*

Hanfield described the legal structure of Indiana's public records: the primary law opening all public records after 75 years regardless of confidentiality; the statutes that specify records which remain confidential despite inter-agency transfer; and the requirement that county commissions handle records management. He used two recent controversial requests — access to Dan Quayle's records and to Mike Tyson's criminal history — to demonstrate the laws and the provisions for access to confidential records.

Johnson spoke of Michigan's goals of protecting confidentiality and providing access to permanently valuable state records. In 1974, the conflict between these ideals and a split in the state's records management function forced the State Archives to act. The problem arose from legislation that allowed destruction of mental health records after 20 years without consideration of historical value. The agreement hammered out by the state agencies provides access to confidential records to legitimate researchers, who must be approved by the creating agency. In addition they sign a contract to keep personal names confidential, allow the Archives to review written work and pay for damages that may result. Currently, the Archives has legislation in progress to lift restrictions on older records.

Behrnd-Klodt used the approaches taken by Michigan and Indiana to evoke inherent conflicts and specific issues of confidential records under state control. The constitutional origins of legal privacy; federal and state statutes, and court opinions; the influence of organizations, communities and private citizens; the policies and procedures of repositories; the public's right to know; and the individual's personal and professional ethics must all be considered. While Indiana used state law and Michigan established contracts between state agencies and end users, questions of access and privacy remain serious.

John D. Rockefeller and the Cleveland Legacy

Moderator: *John LeGloahec, Rockefeller Archive Center.* ***Speakers:*** *Michele Hiltzik, Rockefeller Archive Center; and Jane Hirz, Producer, Creative Video Marketing, Inc.*

Following a screening of *John D. Rockefeller and the Cleveland Legacy,* which was created as a local companion to the national PBS documentary about the Rockefeller family, Hiltzik discussed her experience with makers of both films. Commenting on the unique requirements and sometimes unrealistic demands of documentarians, she underscored the importance of outlining archives policy before the process begins and the necessity of adapting to the film researchers' needs. For example, a special area outside the reading room was set aside, and one archivist assigned to work with the filmmakers: answering questions, supervising filming of materials, coordinating discussions about image ownership and usage, and, within reason, modifying existing policies and procedures to meet deadlines.

Describing her experience producing the Rockefeller/Cleveland film, Hirz provided the view from the

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other side. Because most filmmakers are not historians they depend upon archivists to identify what is available, important and interesting in collections, and whether there are in-house media-savvy experts to provide interviews. The documentarian's deadlines along with unfamiliarity with fragile materials, copyright complexities, even the subject itself, mean great demands on the archivist's patience and time. Hirz described the "chicken or egg" situation implicit in a documentary's structure and content: the script can't be written until images are identified, but images can't be chosen until the script's direction emerges. The expertise of the archivist is critical in resolving the dilemma: knowledge of the collection and its context and history can guide the filmmaker in both script development and image choice.

Working with the Media

Moderator: *Cheri Thies, Minnesota Historical Society.* ***Speakers****: Heather Bruce Satrom, Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation, Smithsonian Institution; Frank Boles, Clarke Historical Library, Central Michigan University; and Brian Albrecht, Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

This session called for sympathy for the news media as the speakers each advised patience, along with an awareness of the needs and limitations of the media. Focusing on print media, they emphasized accessibility and preparation, and warned that anything you say can be printed. Sartrom urged archivists to be proactive, to identify goals in common with the media and understand what makes news. She further suggested making press materials available and identifying a staff spokesperson.

Boles suggested cultivating relationships with the media, and reminded the audience that all reporters, whether from campus weeklies or national dailies, work on deadlines that often limit their appreciation for the depth of a repository's holdings. Representing the media, Albrecht emphasized the importance of placing basic information on the web, reading the local papers and sending press releases to multiple editors. He reiterated the importance of a proactive approach, and recommended that archivists offer stories with timely or local appeal.

Small Archives in the Electronic World

Moderator: *Erik Nordberg, Michigan Technological University.* **Speakers***: Kenneth Wirth, Johnson Controls; Richard Wandel, New York Philharmonic Archives and National Lesbian & Gay Archives; and Margery Sly, Presbyterian Church USA*

Nordberg, editor of the MAC newsletter's 'Lone Arranger' column, led session participants through an active discussion of the issues small and under-resourced archives face daily. Wirth, Wandel, and Sly first described their shops and their approaches in dealing with increasingly sophisticated users. Each wears multiple hats, frenetically balancing the regular work of accession, processing and reference with the political and administrative issues of their organizations. All search for ways to stretch limited staff and resources to satisfy the complexities of preserving electronics records.

The give and take of the session revealed common elements, challenges and questions shared by small archives grappling with digital issues. The need to build support and confidence within the structure of parent organizations was discussed, along with the desire for a technology 'cookbook,' in particular to help with questions about software and data. In terms of the former, what applications are most useful, adaptable, appropriate for small archives? How do rival programs compare? Is it possible to share more sophisticated software with information technology departments? As to data, how do archivists determine the end use of collections, or assess user satisfaction and data utility?

Archival Employment: Perspectives from Employers and Employment Seekers

Moderator: *Peter Wosh, New York University.* ***Speakers****: William Wallach, Bentley Historical Library, University of Michigan; David DeLorenzo, Maryland Historical Society; Heather Muir, Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota; and Laurie A. Baty, Department of the Interior*

Exploring the expectations of archivists on both sides of the job search, the speakers emphasized the importance of good writing/speaking skills and the need for applicants to tailor their approach to the repository and advertised position. Wallach likened the job search to a series of hurdles which must be taken in sequence, and suggested that archival education programs offer practice interviews as preparation.

As an employer, DeLorenzo looks for library degrees, adding that technological skills, a second master's degree, experience and professional involvement enhance a candidate's desirability. As a recent applicant pleasantly surprised by a job market broad enough to allow a focus on specific regions and repository types, Muir advised careful evaluation of

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the total compensation package, including benefits and moving allowances. Baty emphasized the importance of gaining practical experience while in school; advanced degrees, organizational and analytical skills, enthusiasm and the ability to work with others concluded her requirements.

Point-Counterpoint: Do Institutional Archivists and Manuscripts Curators Belong to the Same Profession Anymore?

Moderator: *Timothy Ericson, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.* ***Speakers****: Mark Greene, Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village; John Fleckner, National Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution; Philip C. Bantin, University Archives, Indiana University; William J. Maher, University of Illinois; and Barbara L. Craig, University of Toronto*

This plenary session explored a potential split between institutional archivists and manuscripts curators, spurred by the recent emphasis in the professional literature on electronic records. Ericson began with an analogy to the Protestant Reformation. As Luther broke with the Roman Catholic Church and the "protesters" fragmented further, in the archival profession SAA emerged from AHA and was followed by area-specific groups such as ARMA and NAGARA and regional organizations like MAC and MARAC. Greene discussed how the intermingling of archivists and manuscripts curators, exemplified in Schellenberg and the development of MARC-AMC, has been replaced with advent of electronic records by a more Jenkinsonian approach, evident in the archival programs in Pittsburgh and British Columbia. Greene believes this a narrow view, concerned only with the evidential nature of records at the expense of context and users. Curators appear demeaned in this view, and further, institutional archivists who follow Jenkinson too closely, might soon find themselves wanting for work.

Bantin disagreed that the study of electronic records involved only institutional archivists, and stated that any emphasis on a professional split is wrong. Many think the Pittsburgh and British Columbia models irrelevant to other situations, given the emphasis on transactions, rather than personal record-keeping. The models can and should be expanded to other types of records with less emphasis on evidence and evidential value. Bantin suggested developing and testing models that capture and manage personal records. Finally, Craig used Ericson's analogy to promote unity over division. She pushed for stronger archival education and emphasized that archivists serve as witnesses to the records. Craig suggested that the real division lies between the interventionists and the isolationists.

Improving Relationships Between SAA and Regional Archival Organizations

Moderator: *Dennis Harrison, SAA Council Representative.* ***Speakers****: Todd J. Daniels-Howell, MAC Representative; Jim Stimpert, MARAC Representative; and Scott Schwartz, SAA Representative*

The relationships between regional archival organizations and SAA remain dominated by the deliberate efforts that created the regional groups (many in the 1970s) as very different, even counter-cultural entities. Despite the oppositional coloring, however, many have risen through the ranks of the regionals to emerge as leaders in the national. SAA, it seems, is us.

The discussion revolved around three issues: meetings, advocacy and communications, and publications. First, while many regionals feel that their mission is to provide educational meetings that are both financially and geographically accessible, an unanswered question remains. Are the educational needs of the archival community truly at the fore, or is the focus on providing a "cheap" meeting? Next, the lack of communication, even through informal channels, between SAA and the regionals was considered and previous means of exchange were noted. SAA has apparently committed to include the leadership of the regional groups on their e-list, which would create a channel for soliciting regional opinions and expanding possibilities for professional advocacy. Finally, the discussion turned to the need for SAA to make their publications available for purchase at regional meetings, even minimally by providing desk copies and order forms, and an SAA/regional member to serve as a representative.

The open dialogue from this session provided all participants with a better understanding of the "turf" staked out by SAA and the regionals, and the points where each can help bridge the gap toward better relationships. After the session, a number of individuals noted their desire to see the session repeated at the annual SAA conference.

Steering Committee Summary

January 19, 2001
Baltimore, Maryland

Chair Jim Byers called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Minutes of the previous Steering Committee Meeting were approved.

Chair

Jim introduced Catherine Payson, Kimball & Associates, who reported that the last dues renewal notice had gone out. Twenty nine institutional members have renewed.

MARAC has requested proposals from other association management firms; the Ad Hoc Committee to Oversee the Contract will review these and make a recommendation.

The Ad Hoc Development Committee chaired by Tom Connors will study ways for MARAC to utilize its 501(c)(3) status, beginning with the creation of a Development Plan, which will be discussed at the next Steering Committee Meeting. Eventually, it is anticipated that the Committee will coordinate fundraising, track contributions, and provide one face for potential donors. It was noted that MARAC definitely needs to develop new sources of income. Jim suggested that, given the Ad Hoc Committee's ongoing functions, it should be granted special committee status. MARAC's constitution allows for this progression, after which a vote at a business meeting can confer status as a standing committee. The motion was made, seconded and approved.

Jim noted recent discussions about ways to memorialize the work and life of Arthur Breton and Bro. Denis Sennett, notably a fund dedicated to education. It was suggested that this take the form of a general memorial fund. Jim then reported that an anonymous donor had offered a grant of $2,000 to be matched by Steering Committee members and MARAC Committee Chairs pledges within a month and actual donations within one year. The gift must be used as an educational endowment (for scholarships to conferences and the Modern Archives Institute, and related programs) to be invested in equities. In FY 2001, up to $500 may be used for scholarships, then repaid as soon as possible; no other principal may be expended. A motion to accept the challenge grant's terms and set up an educational memorial fund was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

It was further decided that the MARAC Memorial Fund will retain a minimum balance of $4,000. On February 19, following after the initial one-month match, all MARAC members may contribute.

Vice Chair and Meetings Coordinating Committee

Final figures on the joint MAC/MARAC Meeting in Cleveland are not yet in. At the end of the conference, profit was estimated at $7,000 to be divided according to the final breakdown of registrants from each organization.

Spring 2001 — Philadelphia, PA, May 3 – 5. Co-Chair Margaret Jerrido is working on the LAC. Diane Windham Shaw and Joan Echtenkamp Klein and their committee have prepared a packed program including a lecture to honor Fred Miller on Friday and at least twenty sessions. The conference program will be produced by the company that produces *MAA*, a move toward consolidating all MARAC's publication work.

Fall 2001 — Richmond, VA, October 25 – 27. Local Arrangements, led by Jodi Koste and Tom Crew, will begin holding monthly planning sessions. The Program Committee, under Cheryl Stadel-Bevans and Linda Miller, has been hard at work via e-mail.

Spring 2002 — Towson, MD, April 18 – 20. The contract with the Sheraton Baltimore North in Towson is near completion. Mary Mannix is putting together the LAC. Danna Bell-Russell and Susan McElrath are recruiting for the Program Committee.

Fall 2002 — Poughkeepsie, NY, October 24 – 26. Work continues with the Sheraton Civic Center, which has a most peculiar contract! Christine Crawford Oppenheimer and Brian Keough will co-chair LAC for MARAC, and New England Archivists (NEA) will appoint a co-chair and committee members. Barbara Austen will be the NEA co-chair for Program along with a MARAC member to be determined. MARAC and NEA have worked out the arrangements and schedules, which may seem slightly abbreviated to MARAC members. Thursday will be as usual — workshops, tours, committee meetings and hospitality suite. On Friday morning, MARAC members will have a continental breakfast, caucus meetings and the business meeting. After the luncheon, the program proper will begin with afternoon sessions, then the evening reception. More program sessions will follow on Saturday morning, but not in the afternoon to avoid hotel charges.

Spring 2003. Trenton, NJ, the site of a new Marriott, has been suggested. Another possibility is Harrisburg, PA though the state archives renovation won't be completed yet.

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At the Cleveland meeting, MCC appointed and Steering Committee endorsed a sub-committee (Marisa Keller, Paul Lasewicz and Marsha Trimble) to investigate alternatives to MARAC's standard fall conference. Although a great many possibilities have been discussed by e-mail, no specific direction has emerged. Work will continue and a proposal with several possibilities will be presented to Steering Committee by July at the latest. If the proposal is adopted, the incoming Vice Chair and MCC will then decide on implementation.

To investigate recent low conference attendance, Marsha suggested including a membership survey with the next renewal form mailing.

The Steering Committee voted to forego dinner ($28 per person if catered by the hotel) at the Philadelphia meeting.

Secretary No report

Treasurer

First quarter income is from dues, publication sales, bank interest, conference income, contributions and T-shirt sales. Expenses are K&A management fees, treasurer's postage and filing fees for state sales tax exemptions, *MAA* production and postage, and Spring 2001 conference reception costs. The reserve was increased to $57,000 to cover a one-year operating budget as mandated. Final financials from Cleveland are not yet in. The annual audit on October 3, 2000, showed everything in good order. Finance Committee is looking into bonding the treasurer. MARAC's IRS tax returns will be completed soon.

The arrangement with K&A continues to work well, despite some problems with mail not being passed on in a timely fashion.

Steering Committee members were again cautioned to watch spending. Each request to K & A (including calls or faxes) costs MARAC money.

Continuing with Strategic Plan Implementation, MARAC has applications for sales tax-exempt status pending in VA, DC and PA; exemptions have been received for MD, NJ, NY and WV; and DE has no sales tax. During the application process, which involves proving to the various states that MARAC has a strong and continuing presence in the jurisdiction, it became apparent that Caucus Representatives need to more thoroughly document the activities within their states. Caucus Reps were reminded to submit information each quarter to both Steering Committee and the *MAA*. In some states, MARAC will have to reapply for exemption status every few years; more complete documentation will make the process easier.

MARAC's financial report already shows a loss, but as noted, the final tabulation from Cleveland has not been received.

Archivist No report.

STANDING COMMITTEES

Education

Mary Rephlo has stepped in as Chair. Lisa Gibbon and Teresa Mora, have joined the committee.

Five half-day workshops are planned for Philadelphia: Reference (Diana Franzusoff Peterson, Haverford College); Introduction To Appraisal: What Do We Keep? (Marty Levitt, American Philosophical Society Library and Temple University); Database Design Basics and Database Design II: Queries, Forms, And Reports (Meg Phillips, American College of Physicians, American Society of Internal Medicine); and Basic Grant Writing (Eileen K. Myers, CFRE and Certified Management Trainer.) The SAA EAD workshop has been cancelled for want of a computer training room.

Jay Gaidmore will head up the workshop effort for Fall 2001 in Richmond along with Miriam Spectre (who handled Philadelphia arrangements) and Tom Connors, (who will take on Towson). Margaret Burri will serve as the Program Committee's liaison.

Nominations and Elections

The slate of candidates for the upcoming election is nearly complete. The ballot should be mailed in early February. The slate includes Chair, Vice Chair, Members-at-Large, Nominating and Custer Awards.

Membership Development

Regular membership stands at 914, with students and retired members adding 110 for total of 1024. State Caucus memberships are DC - 188; DE - 31; MD - 152; NJ - 127; NY - 252; PA - 201; VA - 136; and WV – 12.

Since the last meeting, no new members have been added. Because the new membership brochures have not been completed, the planned recruitment drives have not gone forward.

The new member meeting in Philadelphia will be Friday morning 7:30 – 8:00.

Outreach

The Service Award nomination process needs to be re-designed. Having received few if any responses from the membership to the last several calls for nominations, the Committee unanimously agrees that this serious problem must be

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addressed. A proposal for a new process (NOT new qualifications) will be presented to Steering Committee as soon as possible.

Nominations from the Committee were presented. A motion was made, seconded and approved to present Service Awards to Michael McCormick and Bruce Bruemmer, the two MAC members who guided the joint meeting in Cleveland.

Planning for the "clearinghouse" of Archives Week resources continues. Discussions with the MARAC Archivist and webmaster will ensue to determine proper location of collected materials.

Arline Custer Award

Activities are underway for nominations, which are due on July 31, 2001. The committee will solicit nominations as widely as possible within the MARAC region, on the website and in *MAA*, and on the Archives listserv. The committee will also publicize the award in journals or newsletters such as *Archivaria, Provenance, Public Historian, and Midwest Archivist,* if notices can be published without charge.

The committee would especially like to recognize MARAC members who have published important articles on using archival materials and which make theoretical or other professional contributions. In the past, the committee has received few articles in the nomination process, and hopes to reverse what has become a steady decline.

As reported in October 2000, the committee will continue to review books and articles separately, and to award a prize of $200 for the best book and $100 for the best article. However, the committee will use its discretion in awarding the prizes. If it is determined that all of the prize money should be awarded to a book (or books) or if other nominations do not meet the criteria or rise to the level of an award, the committee will vote on the award distribution as they have done in past years.

Finding Aids Award

An announcement has been posted on the Archives and Delaware Valley Archivist Group (DVAG) listservs, and will be posted once a month through March. The announcement has also run in *MAA*. Three submissions have been received.

Publications Committee

Printing and distribution of *MAA* is on schedule and Susan Aprill has been very satisfied with Communication By Design for design and printing. State and Local News editor will rotate among of the State Caucus representatives, beginning with MD. Joan Klein of the Committee offered a suggestion at our meeting in Cleveland to include at least one full presentation from the Conference selected through conference evaluations and Committee review. A "Style Guide and Procedure Manual" for the *MAA* and a similar tool for the website are being developed. Newsletter sections and editors will be reviewed: topics may be obsolete.

Frank Serene has completed a manuscript for a technical leaflet (TL) on the Americans with Disabilities Act. Jean Ann Croft is working on a TL for Disaster Planning. The TL on Archives Week by Sharon Pullen is ready for printing. TL #2, 5, 6, and 8 need to be reprinted.

There is a need on the part of the Publications Committee to better coordinate the printing and distribution of the various brochures produced by other MARAC committees. As reported for the Membership Committee, the brochure is still awaiting printing at Penn State and has affected recruiting efforts. We will streamline this process and provide better service.

The Committee still awaits the symposium volume from the Penn State meeting. The latest deadline (January 1) has passed. We hope to receive the final copy soon. We are still investigating the idea of a Labor Archives volume. There will be a similar session at the Spring meeting in Philadelphia and the presentations and papers may be the set to develop into a symposium volume.

NCCPH No report

Firm Council No public meetings since the Fall.

State Caucus Reports See State and Local News.

Old Business None

New Business None

It was moved, seconded and approved that the meeting adjourn.

Submitted by
Jackie Esposito

Call for Submissions for the 2001 Arline Custer Memorial Award

Honoring the memory of Arline Custer (1909 – 1975), MARAC member and editor of the National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections, this award recognizes the best books, monographs, articles and exhibition catalogues published by MARAC members and other individuals and institutions in the MARAC region. Works submitted must appeal to the general public as well as the archival community.

The criteria for evaluation are relevancy both to the archival community and the general public, originality and quality of scholarship, style of writing, presentation, and layout. Individuals or institutions may submit up to two works published between July 1, 2000, and June 30, 2001.

Submissions must be received by July 31, 2001.

Archival finding aids, including guides, are not eligible and should be submitted to the MARAC Finding Aids Award Committee.

Up to two awards may be given, with a maximum value of $200 for books or monographs, and $100 for articles. The 2001 awards will be announced at the Fall Meeting in Richmond, VA on October 25 – 27, 2001.

Please send two copies of each submission to Larry Baume, Chair, Arline Custer Award Committee, 5805 Taylor Road, Riverdale Park, MD 20737. For more information, check the MARAC website at http://www.lib.umd.edu/MARAC/custer.htm, or contact Larry at (301)713-7110 ext. 234, or larry.baume@nara.gov.

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Name:
Marisa Keller

Current position:
Archivist,
Corcoran Gallery of Art

Place of birth:
Washington, DC

Undergraduate degree:
Art History,
Bryn Mawr College

Graduate degrees:
MLS,
University of Maryland

Year joined MARAC:
1994,
Steering Committee 1999 – 2001

One of Our Own

Marisa Keller

After you talk to Marisa Keller, it seems only logical that she would end up as the archivist of the Corcoran Gallery of Art in her native Washington, DC. While getting her degree in art history, Marisa interned at the Corcoran, one of the oldest art museums in the country and home to a major collection in American art. Initially Marisa had no thought of becoming an archivist. But after working in a variety of positions, she gravitated toward the archives.

"I like reading other people's mail," Marisa wryly says, when asked what she most enjoys about being an archivist. There is, of course, more to it than that. In the archives, she found a "combination of art and history" working with original material, not "reading about it in some art history book. I really enjoy working with records," says Marisa, especially doing reference. "There is something enormously satisfying about being able to answer somebody's question."

The Corcoran archives houses institutional records, including such material as financial and operational records, but it also has records of the curator, exhibition records, and photographs. Also, since the Corcoran Gallery is directly associated with the Corcoran College of Art and Design (one of the few such remaining partnerships in the United States), the archives also houses records from such departments as student services and deans' offices. Educational outreach is thus an integral part of the institutional mission. "I'm lucky that the Corcoran is in the business of outreach," Marisa says. Besides enjoying outreach itself, Marisa feels that it is "really important for archivists to talk about what they do when they can."

Marisa believes that it is just as important for archivists to talk with each other as it is to talk to the public. When she decided to become an archivist, "I knew I didn't know anything, and I had to find a network of people who did." MARAC helped Marisa learn about her profession, and her sense of service led her to become actively involved, joining committees, and serving on the Steering Committee and the Local Arrangements Committee for the recent meeting in Washington.

Processing Grants for Physics, Astronomy and Geophysics Collections

The Center for History of Physics at the American Institute of Physics (AIP) is pleased to announce its 2001 Grants to Archives program, which provides funding to make records, papers and other primary sources which document the history of modern physics and the allied fields of astronomy, geophysics and optics accessible to researchers. Grants may be up to $10,000 each and can be used to cover direct expenses connected with preservation, inventories, arrangement and description or cataloging appropriate collections. Expenses may include staff salaries and benefits and acid-free storage materials, but not overhead or equipment.

The AIP History Center's mission is to help preserve and make known the history of modern physics and allied fields, and the grant program is intended to help support significant work that makes original sources accessible to researchers. Preference will accordingly be given to medium size or larger projects for which the grant will be matched by the parent organization or other sources. For grant guidelines, check the Center's Web site at http://www.aip.org/history/grntgde.htm or call (301) 209-3165. Sample proposals are available on request, and a list of previous recipients is on the web site. Deadline for receipt of applications is July 1, 2001.

State And Local News

Beginning with this issue, editorial duties for this column will rotate among the Caucus Representatives, proceeding alphabetically by state. MARAC members, please continue to send items of interest to your State Representative; contact information follows each state report.

Welcome now to our inaugural editor, Maryland's Mary Mannix, and on to the news from the states!

Delaware

Heather Jones, Manager of Public Services, DE Public Archives, has been named Employee of the Year by the DE Department of State. A graduate of the Modern Archives Institute and the Duke Strategic Leadership for State Executives Program as well as a Certified Archivist, Heather has been at the Archives since 1994. In other news, the Public Archives' new state-of-the-art building opened with great fanfare on Delaware Day (Dec. 7). The facility holds 95,000 cubic feet of records (more than double the previous capacity) and boasts a 7,000 sq. ft. public research area with twice as many seats and microfilm stations. Check out http://www.archives.lib.de.us to share in this great achievement for Delaware and the MARAC region!

Laura Cochrane has been appointed Assistant Librarian in Special Collections, University of DE. With an MA in art history from the University of Texas at Austin and an MSLIS from Simmons College, Laura was previously at the Baker Library at Harvard Business School, where she was project archivist for "Unheard Voices: American Women in the Industrial and Business Age."

In February, the Hagley Library presented "Pierre S. du Pont and African American Education in DE," an exhibition that traced the impact of du Pont philanthropy on African American education and the black community's response to his school rebuilding program during the 1920s and '30s. The exhibit featured artifacts and documents from Hagley collections and from the local community. A 25-minute film on African American education was produced in conjunction with the exhibit.

The Historical Society of DE has been named the repository for the records of Senator William V. Roth's 34-year Congressional career. About 1,100 cubic feet of documents, photographs, memorabilia and electronic records have arrived at the Society.

A new exhibit in Special Collections, University of DE, "The Art of Botanical Illustration," features European and US botanical books from the 17th through the 20th centuries, works on travel and exploration, commercial seed and nursery catalogs, and modern works from the University's Unidel History of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture. On display through June 8, the exhibit can be seen online at http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec.

Caucus Representative
Connie Cooper can be reached at (302) 655-7161 or manuscripts@hsd.org

District of Columbia

For the most up-to-date information about the activities of the DC Caucus and DC institutions consult http://www.dcarchivists.org

Kristine Kaske and Susan McElrath again take the lead in planning the 3rd Annual DC Metropolitan Area Archives Fair in October and the DC Caucus Teachers Workshop September.

NARA's 14th Annual "Records Administration Conference" will be held on May 15 at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave NW. Additional information is on the web at http://www.nara.gov/records/racofl.html.

The Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts (CCAHA) sponsors the "Disaster Mitigation Workshop Series" May 14 – 16, at The Society of the Cincinnati

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Headquarters, Library and Museum at Anderson House 2118 Massachusetts Ave NW. CCAHA offers stipends for individuals to attend the series of three emergency preparedness workshops. Further information is available at http://www.dcarchivists.org

In March, Geoff Chester of the US Naval Observatory treated MARAC members to an informal guided tour of the Observatory and its library. Also in March, the DC Caucus, in cooperation with the National Archives Assembly and the Caucus' Small Repository Group, sponsored a "Refreshing Overview of Records Management" at the National Archives Building. Stephen Cooper, from NARA's Life Cycle Management Division, taught this course. To wind up the month, NARA's 16th Annual Preservation Conference, "A Case Oddity: Preserving the Physical Evidence of Artifacts and Records" was held at the National Archives at College Park.

Dr. Michael Musick, a long time Archivist in NARA's Military Reference Branch, and a long-time active MARACer, recently enjoyed luncheon with President George Bush and Vice President Richard Cheney. The event was covered by the Washington Post on Monday, Feb. 26, 2001; check http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/articles/A54915-2001Feb25.html for details.

The Department of Archives, Manuscripts and Museum Collections of The Catholic University of America has relocated to larger, more convenient facilities in the Life Cycle Institute building on campus. For further information, look at http://libraries.cua.edu/archives.html

Appropriations legislation for Fiscal Year 2001 has been approved by Congress and signed by former President Clinton. These funds will enable NARA to complete renovation of the original National Archives Building, advance major initiatives in federal records management, meet special challenges posed by electronic records, expand public access, and preserve growing quantities of records. The budget totals $316,918,000.

As previously announced, due to budgetary constraints the National Historical Publications and Records Commission voted at its November 2000 meeting to suspend its Fellowship Programs in Archival Administration and Historical Documentary Editing for 2001 – 2002.

Caucus Representative
Jim Cassedy can be reached at (301) 713-7110 x 258 or james.cassedy@arch2.nara.govDC

Maryland

The Caucus now has a listserv to keep members up-to-date and in touch with each other. Caucus members with current email addresses on file should have received an invitation to join. To be added to the list, contact the Caucus Rep, or go to http://groups.yahoo.com/group/marac-md.

Tired of missing Caucus meetings? Well, sponsor a Caucus tour of your own shop! Past tour hosts have acquired board members, project partners, even volunteers from these events. To set up a behind-the-scenes grand tour of your institution, contact the Caucus Rep. No shop is too small or too far off the beaten path! Future tours include the Peabody Institute Archives, Johns Hopkins, Baltimore and Mt. St. Mary's College Archives and Special Collections in Emmitsburg.

MARAC's Spring 2002 Conference, formerly known as the "Somewhere in Maryland Meeting," will take place in Towson, the seat of Baltimore County. Local Arrangements Committee is looking for members from throughout the state. Contact Mary Mannix, Local Arrangements Co-chair, to help create a Memorable Maryland Moment.

McKeldin Library, University of MD, College Park recently hosted "Critical Issues and Strategic Choices in Archives and Records Management." This public lecture brought together two of the nation's foremost leaders in the archives and records field: Lee Stout, President of SAA, and Larry Eiring, President, Association of Records Managers and Administrators International (ARMA). Stout and Eiring addressed the state of these intertwined professions, critical to the smooth and effective operation of government, business, education, and other institutions, yet facing monumental upheaval in the shift to a digital society. The speakers also explored the substantial challenges of meeting the changing needs of SAA and ARMA members, maintaining professional identity, and planning for the future.

Beth Collier, of St. Mary's County Archives, spends much of her non-archival time involved with writing or horses or both. Her recent publications include "Dressage at Devon" at http://www.Marylandressage.org and in *The Equiery* (Nov. 2000; available at tack/feed stores) and the poem "The Hunt Coat" in British literary magazine *The North* (no. 27). She also participated in St. Mary's College's 9th Annual "Women In Poetry" reading in March.

Janie J.C. O'Neal has been hired as Archivist for the newly created Center for Baltimore Studies,

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University of Baltimore. This is a two-year position, funded by the Provost's Office of the University. She will work in the Special Collections Department (formerly The Archives and Special Collections) in Langsdale Library.

David McCartney, formerly of History Associates and the Montgomery County Archives, has been named University Archivist of the University of Iowa. He can be reached at david-mccartney @uiowa.edu and says 'Hi' to all from Iowa City, home of the Hamburg Inn, one of the *New York Times* favorite burger joints!

Among the treasures in Mt. Saint Mary's Archives in Emmitsburg are two slabs of hard mudstone bearing dinosaur footprints from the late Triassic era (200 million years ago). Paleontologist Peter Kranz featured them in an exhibit on dinosaurs of the National Capital Region for Dinofest 2000 at Chicago's Navy Pier last December. The Mount and the dinosaurs have been linked since 1895, when science and math professor Dr. James A. Mitchell discovered the fossils and cut out the stone in which they were imprinted. The slab, now broken into two pieces, was deposited in the Archives almost 100 years later. Dr. Kranz described the dinosaur responsible for the footprints as a plant-eating ornithopod about one foot tall, three to five feet long, weighing approximately 20 pounds. For information, check out http://www.dinofest.org.

The Lincoln Park History Project is pleased to announce its new website at http://www.montgomerylibrary.org/lpark/lpproject.html, which preserves and provides access to the rich cultural heritage of Lincoln Park, one of Rockville, MD's oldest communities. Historic materials such as minutes, newsletters, scrapbooks, diaries, correspondence, yearbooks and photographs from individuals and families as well as churches, political organizations, civic associations, businesses and community centers have been digitized and placed online. The inclusive and exhaustive scope of the electronic collections was achieved by borrowing material from the community at large. The site is maintained by the Lincoln Park Partners, a neighborhood history initiative of the Lincoln Park Historical Society, the Montgomery County Archives, the Montgomery County Historical Society, and Peerless Rockville. For information, contact Suzanne Carbone at carbos@mont.lib.md.us.

The University of MD Libraries Salvage Squad faced its biggest challenge ever last August when a broken water main flooded the subbasement of the Hornbake Building, then poured into ground floor, home to the Broadcasting Archives, the Library of American Broadcasting and the UM Libraries overflow stacks. Shelved materials suffered little damage, but boxes of books had been stacked on the floor. As the cartons absorbed water, volumes tumbled into the flood. The Salvage Squad, well-versed in the Libraries' Disaster Plan, moved dry boxes to higher ground and unpacked wet books, setting aside the damp for air drying and the soaked for the deep freeze. No books were lost, but complications — particularly the hot, humid weather and insufficient power to run pumps and dehumidifiers — threatened the unique collections in the Broadcasting Archives. Again, the detailed Disaster Plan provided guidance: the Salvage Squad immediately located a vendor specializing in industrial strength drying of buildings. The day after the flood, dry air flowed through the building and the humidity dropped rapidly. In October, the people who worked tirelessly during that hot, wet week were toasted at a celebratory breakfast and Hornbake Pool Party. The Salvage Squad graciously accepted public appreciation for a job well done.

"Finding History Where You Live" is the theme of the Columbia Archives outreach program to increase historical awareness in the "New Town" of Columbia, MD. A series of one-page vignettes in the Columbia Association's *CA Monthly* highlights important people and places, while the "BikeAbout," a self-paced bicycle tour, showcases historic houses, cemeteries and ruins that pre-date the founding of Columbia in 1967, as well as sites of more recent vintage, like the plaque marking the town founding and examples of public art. The projects were created to support the Howard County Sesquicentennial Celebration.

The Maryland Room, C. Burr Artz Central Library, Frederick County Public Libraries (FCPL) is proud to announce its first webpage, accessible through via the information section of the FCPL homepage at http://www.fcpl.org. Currently closed for renovation, the Artz Library, located in downtown Frederick's historic district, will reopen in April 2002 with an enlarged Maryland Room, climate-controlled storage, a processing room, and an exhibit area, which will allow display of the three dimensional artifacts, in particular the significant collection of 19th century ceramics and a recently acquired selection of advertising yardsticks.

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Caucus Representative
Mary Mannix can be reached at (301) 631-3764 or mm0028@mail.pratt.lib.md.us

New Jersey

The Caucus' February meeting was graciously hosted by Tad Hershorn, at the Institute for Jazz Studies, Rutgers-Newark. After the business meeting, attendees heard an absorbing presentation by several members of the Institute staff on the preservation and management of its collection, followed by a fascinating tour of this unique and impressive facility. Most of the attendees then walked over to the New Jersey Historical Society, for a gala reception in honor of the recently appointed director of the New Jersey Historical Commission, Marc Mappen.

On a sadder note, many at the meeting expressed shock and sorrow at the unexpected death of Caucus member Paul Stellhorn, 54, of the Newark Public Library. Neither archivist nor librarian, Stellhorn was a historian, an expert on the history of Newark, and an extremely effective grant writer whose work brought him into contact with many archivists. He will be greatly missed by his colleagues.

The Caucus has initiated plans for Archives Week in October. The keynote speaker for Archives and History Day (Oct. 13) will be Marc Mappen.

Caucus Representative
Gary Saretzky can be reached at (908) 308-3772 or saretzky@rci.rutgers.edu.

New York

A group of municipal historians and museum professionals will celebrate NYS Archives Week (Oct. 8 – 13) with a day-long workshop on "Using Archival Records for Educational Purposes" at SUNY Fredonia. For information, contact Michelle Henry at (716) 753-4857 or henrym@co.chautauqua.ny.us.

State Archivist V. Chapman-Smith has been honored with the Governor's Tribute to African American Leaders of Excellence in State Service for 2001. This recently established award represents one of the highest honors that can be bestowed on a state civil servant. State Education Commissioner Richard Mills commended Chapman-Smith for "accomplishments [that] have kept the Archives in the forefront nationally in almost every area of archival endeavor. Of particular note is her effort to ensure that documentation of NY's history is inclusive and accessible."

The State Archives is pleased to announce the appointment of Christine W. Ward as Director of Operations. In her new role, Ward will provide leadership and strategic direction for the State Archives in four program areas: State Archives Operations and Reference Services; Government Records Services; Documentary Heritage Programs; and Training and Grant Support Services. Additional duties include working closely with local governments and state agencies on records management and archival issues, and with private institutions and organizations that hold historical records. Ward joined the Archives in 1981 as a Preservation Administrator, and has held positions of increasing responsibility, most recently Chief Archivist, 1991 – 2000.

The NY Archives Partnership Trust, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public benefit corporation that helps preserve the historically significant documents in the State Archives, welcomes Laurie Roberts as Director and Jennifer Betts as Membership Manager. Roberts has more than twenty-five years experience in institutional advancement and fundraising. Betts has expert knowledge of fundraising software systems and will be developing a membership program for the Trust.

The Archives Round Table of NY (ART) is currently curating the online exhibit "From the Seaport to Silicon Alley: A History of Technology in NYC, 1820 – 2000." ART produced the exhibit, one of the first joint virtual exhibits by a professional archives organization in the US, to celebrate NY Archives Week 2000. As a work in progress, the site will be updated through 2001: a historical essay by Thorin Tritter, PhD, was recently added. Browse the exhibit at http://www.nycarchivists.org

Cheektowaga, NY, recently released a new "Guide to the Archival Records of the Town of Cheektowaga 2000," with funding from a NY Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund grant. The Town's records include official minutes of the board meetings, subject and resolution files from the town clerk's office, as well as vital statistics files. More information is available at http://www.Cheektowaga.ny.us, or by contacting Town Record Manager Lisa Bolognese at (716) 686-3983.

Genesee County and history students from Genesee Community College are indexing municipal officials' oath of office records ca. 1850 – 1950, as part of an annual project involving archival records held by the county. The final index will increase access to the information in these records, and will be available at the Genesee County History Department Research Library. For information contact Sue Conklin at (716) 344-2550 ext. 2613 or

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sconklin@co.genesee.ny.us.

The Niagara County Legislature recently approved a resolution to use $160,000 in county funds from the tobacco settlement to complete work on the county's new records center, with the grand opening ribbon cutting to be held during Archives Week in October. For information, contact Wendy Roberson, Deputy County Clerk at Wendy.Roberson @niagaracounty.com.

The NY State Archives recently combined Statewide Archival Services and State Archives Facility Operations into one unit under the direction of Chief Archivist Kathleen Roe. The reorganization will better serve the Archives' customers and eliminate duplicate functions. In other news, the public research facility of the State Archives has moved to its new location on the third floor of the Cultural Education Center, Empire State Plaza. Hours of operation remain 9:00 to 5:00, Monday through Friday. The relocation is part of a $7.5 million renovation of the eleventh floor of the CEC, to be completed in 2003.

The State Archives website — http://www.archives.nysed.gov — recently garnered some prestigious cyber-recognition, including

- an Ancestry Family History Favorite Award from Ancestry.com. for "Rediscovering NY History and Culture;"
- fourth place in "The Ultimate GIS Directory" Top Ten at TenLinks.com, a site for engineers, designers, and GIS professionals, for the "GIS Development Guide;" and
- featured site status in Lightspan's StudyWeb for "NY Latino Documentation Project."

Caucus Representative
Geof Huth can be reached at (518) 743-6803 or ghuth@mail.nysed.gov

Pennsylvania

Beth Bensman, formerly University Archivist and Special Collections Librarian, Thomas Jefferson University, is now the Manager of Public Services and Outreach for the Presbyterian Historical Society. Located at 425 Lombard Street, Philadelphia, the Society is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 4:30. Beth may be reached at (215) 928-3884 or bbensman@history.pcusa.org.

In March, Valerie A. Metzler presented the workshop "You Bought the Software — Now What? Computerizing Your Collection's Records" sponsored by the PA Federation of Museums and Historical Organizations in State College and Butler, PA. Valerie can be reached at (814) 940-0493.

At Gettysburg College, Special Collections has moved into new quarters on the fourth floor of Musselman Library. Construction, which began last July, can be followed online at http://www.gettysburg.edu/library/newsevents/fourthfloor.html. The reading room has quadrupled and exhibit space added. The staff of two full time archivists, an undergraduate intern, and five student workers are extremely happy with the new processing room and exhibit preparation area.

Last year, the Urban Archives at Temple University received a grant from the PA Historical and Museum Commission to conduct a videotaped oral history with Lois Fernandez, community activist, entrepreneur and co-founder of ODUNDE, South Philadelphia's oldest continuous African-American festival. Copies of the transcript and "Be a Player," an excerpt from original video tape are now available. For information, contact Margaret Jerrido, Archivist and Head of Urban Archives, at (215) 204-6639 or mj@astro.temple.edu

According to State Senator Vincent J. Fumo and State Representative James Roebuck (both Philadelphia Democrats), a priceless collection of Civil War artifacts housed in Philadelphia is in grave danger. The Board of Directors of the Civil War Library and Museum has proposed transferring materials to a new museum Richmond, VA, but Fumo and Roebuck believe such a move would destroy the collection, degrade its historical value, and may be illegal. The Museum, located at 18th and Pine, holds military artifacts and documents, including items owned by Rutherford B. Hayes, Ulysses S. Grant, and George Gordon Meade, Union commander at Gettysburg, who lived near the museum's current site. Founded in 1888 by the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, an organization of Union officers and their descendants which assembled the collection, the museum has been operated by a nonprofit board since 1986. Legal ownership to the collection has yet to be determined.

The PA Historical and Museum Commission, in conjunction with the State Historical Records Advisory Board (SHRAB), received a grant from the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC) in November 2000 to help implement SHRAB's ten-year Strategic Plan to

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preserve and provide access to the state's documentary heritage. These funds are available to repositories through out the state for projects such as microfilming; inventories/surveys for developing archival programs; purchases of equipment (shelving, reader-printers, computers and software) and supplies (acid-free boxes and folders); arranging and describing records; preparing guides and finding aids; preservation assessments; description projects; and developing programs to promote use of documentary resources and to train archivists and manuscript curators. Access and Preservation grants up to $5,000 have no matching requirements; special Archives project grants up to $20,000 require a 50/50 match, though "soft" matching with supplies or personnel is accepted. **Opportunity to receive grant funding has never been better, so eligible organizations are urged to apply. Applications must be submitted by Dec. 1, 2001.** The Archives and Records Management Grants Manager is available to discuss project scope, answer questions, and even review preliminary drafts of applications. For information, contact David W. Shoff at (717) 783-5796 or dshoff@state.pa.us.

When W.E.B. DuBois was conducting research for his landmark treatise on urban black life *The Philadelphia Negro*, among those he consulted was William Henry Dorsey (1837 – 1920). The son of a well known and prosperous Philadelphia caterer, Dorsey attended the respected Institute for Colored Youth, now Cheyney University. Dorsey, like many post-Civil War, middle-class African Americans, collected "Negro" memorabilia, of which little survived. Dorsey's extensive accumulation of newspaper clippings, manuscripts, photographs and rare books is on display through May on the second floor of the Leslie P. Hill Library at Dorsey's alma mater, Cheyney University.

Caucus Representative
Margaret Jerrido can be reached at (215) 204-6639 or mj@astro.ocis.temple.edu

Virginia

In early April, the South West Virginia Archives and Historical Repositories Consortium held a workshop at Roanoke College. Laura Y. Baxley, Assistant Keeper, North Carolina Collection Gallery, UNC-CH, presented a hands-on program on creating quality, archivally-sound exhibits on a very small budget. The workshop offered methods that almost anyone can master, regardless of artistic talent. For information, contact Linda Angle Miller, Roanoke College Archivist, at (540) 375-2490 or miller@roanoke.edu.

Caucus Representative
Laura Drake can be reached at (804) 236-3713 or ldrake@lva.lib.va.us

West Virginia

Caucus Representative
Ellen Hassig Ressmeyer can be reached at (304) 766-2083 or eressmeyer@oscar.wvsc.edu

Welcome New Members

Katherine Cowan
Maryland Historical Society Library
Nancy DeMarcus
University of Kentucky
Callie Lou Freed
The Library of Virginia
James Gehrlich
New York Weill Cornell Medical Center Archives
Wendy Glickman
Rockefeller Archive Center
Julie Graham
University of California — LA
Anne Harney
American Philosophical Society
Cynthia Kahn
Association of American Medical Colleges
Barbara Kellner
Columbia Archives
Abby Lester
Jewish Museum of Maryland
Alison Lewis
American Philosophical Society
Leon Miller
Tulane University Library
Nancy Miller
Historical Society of Pennsylvania
Annette Montgomery
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Sidney Railson
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Tracy Elizabeth Robinson
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Annamarie Sandecki
Tiffany & Company
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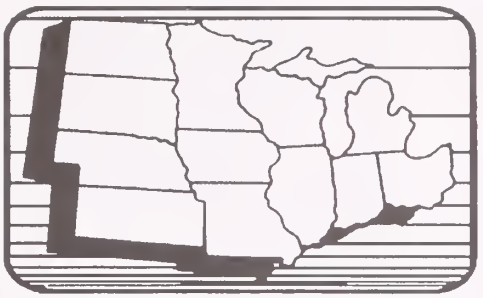
Philadelphia Museum of Art
Joy Weiner
Smithsonian Insitution Archives of American Art
Thomas White
Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania



Archival Issues
The Journal of the Midwest Archives Conference

Published twice annually and circulated throughout the United States and the English-speaking world, *Archival Issues* is the United States' other archival journal.

All submission are refereed, and the Editorial Board of *Archival Issues* strives to publish diverse and stimulating articles that will interest and educate archivists in a wide variety of institutions and at different career stages. Recent and upcoming articles include an analysis of public perceptions of archives, a major reappraisal case study, a look at EAD obstacles and opportunities, a provocative essay on archival education, and an overview of evolving electronic records theory and practice.

While the journal receives and publishes submission from throughout the United States, the Editorial Board is especially interested in publishing excellent papers presented at major regional conferences, and in particular would welcome submission from MARAC meetings. Submissions by students in graduate programs are also encouraged.

And in the frugal tradition of the U.S. heartland – a subscription costs only $20 per year. Visit our Web page at **http://www.midwestarchives.org/ai.htm.**

To submit an article, contact:

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Fax: 419-530-2726
lbr0008@uoft01.utoledo.edu

Preservation News

Upcoming Events

CCAHA will offer a series of disaster mitigation workshops in Washington, DC, May 14 – 16, 2001. This series will provide tools for assessing an institution's vulnerability to disaster, evaluating fire prevention and suppression strategies, and assessing health and safety factors related to disasters.

May 14

Be Prepared — Conducting a Vulnerability Assessment.

Speakers: Dr. Michael Trinkley, Chicora Foundation, Inc. and Dr. Michael Smith, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, LaSalle University.

May 15

Be Prepared — Fire Protection and Suppression.

Speakers: J. Andrew Wilson, Assistant Director for Fire Protection and Safety, Smithsonian Institution and Nicholas Artim, Director, Fire Safety Network.

May 16, 2001

Be Prepared — Assessing Health and Safety Risks.

Speakers: Monona Rossol, President, Arts, Crafts, and Theater Safety, Inc. (ACTS); Pam Hackbart-Dean, Southern Labor Archivist; Georgia State University; and Katherine K. Dibble, Director of Public Services, Boston Public Library.

Stipends of up to $900 are available to defray travel, lodging and registration costs for individuals who are eligible. For more information, visit http://www.ccaha.org or call (215) 545-0613.

Publications

The proceedings from the Conservation Center for Art and Historic Artifacts' conference "Architectural Records: Preserving and Managing the Documentation of Our Built Environment," held last May in Philadelphia, are available at http://www.ccaha.org. The proceedings address key theoretical and practical challenges faced by those responsible for architectural collections. Links within the full-text lectures lead to speaker handouts, additional websites and image-based presentations.

Bibliography of Preservation Literature, 1983 – 1996 by Robert Schnare and the late authors George Cunha and Susan G. Swartzburg was recently published by Scarecrow Press. The 840-page book contains over 5,300 bibliographic citations, the majority of which are annotated, as well as a glossary of abbreviations and acronyms, name and subject indexes, and an essay on preservation management. Order online at http://www.scarecrowpress.com/ISBN/0810837129 and receive 15% off the $89.50 purchase price.

The Regional Alliance for Preservation (RAP) has a new centralized online source for information and education on collections conservation and preservation available at http://www.rap-arcc.org The site features an annotated bibliography of publications; a starter kit for collections managers; geographical locations and contact points for RAP participants; links to key web resources, and more.

The Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR), in cooperation with the European Commission on Preservation and Access, has published *Preservation Science Survey: An Overview of Recent Developments in Research on the Conservation of Selected Analog Library and Archival Materials.* The report provides summaries of significant recent research on the preservation of paper, film and photographic materials, and magnetic tape. It's available online at http://www.clir.org

The Federal Emergency Management Agency recently created a new brochure on its role in historic preservation and how it can assist communities in preventing, responding to and recovering from the effects of disasters on historic properties and cultural resources. For information, visit http://www.fema.gov

The 2001 edition of Disaster Recovery Yellow Pages is now available from the Systems Audit Group Inc. This 350-page sourcebook is designed to help locate crucial but hard-to-find recovery services in the US and Canada. The price is $98

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($3 shipping). Visit http://www.disaster-help.com or e-mail dryp@javanet.com.

The Department of Preservation and Conservation of Cornell University Library has released a Spanish version of its online digital imaging tutorial *Moving Theory into Practice.* An adjunct to the recently published book and workshop series of the same name, the tutorial also serves as a stand-alone introduction to the use of digital imaging to make cultural heritage materials accessible. The translation, funded by the CLIR, may be found at http://www.library.cornell.edu/preservation/tutorial/

Over 150 people from Australia, Europe and North America convened in York, England, December 6 – 8, 2000, for an international conference on digital preservation. Sponsored by Cedars (CURL Exemplars in Digital Archives), the Joint Information Systems Committee, the Research Libraries Group and OCLC, the conference provided a venue to share, disseminate and discuss current issues around the preservation of digital materials. "Information Infrastructures for Digital Preservation," a one-day workshop that preceded the conference, focused on metadata issues for long term digital preservation. A summary of the events may be found in the December 2000 RLG DigiNews at http://www.rlg.org/preserv/diginews/. Conference papers are available at http://www.rlg.org/events/pres-2000/

A new section on audio preservation has been added to Conservation OnLine. The site includes formats; standards, guidelines and best practices; bibliographic resources; digital audio; audio preservation organizations; mailing lists; and links to additional sites. Visit http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/bytopic/audio for more information.

IT'S BACK!

Get ready for the return of the MARAC Film Festival this October in Richmond VA. Now is the time to start looking for footage to share with your MARAC colleagues. Submissions with Halloween or frightening themes will be appreciated, along with footage of a general nature. Look for more information, including details on submitting your fun footage, in the Summer issue of the *Mid-Atlantic Archivist.*

Questions? Contact Alison Oswald at oswalda@nmah.si.edu or (202) 357-3780, or Laura Drake at ldrake@lva.lib.va.us or (804) 236-3713.

The Center for Jewish History — The Whole is Greater than the Parts

The Center for Jewish History, which opened to the public in October 2000, unites five major institutions of Jewish scholarship, culture and research: the American Jewish Historical Society, the American Sephardi Federation, the Leo Baeck Institute, Yeshiva University Museum and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. Through its staff of professional librarians and archivists, the Center provides unparalleled access to a vast integrated collection of 100 million archival documents, 500,000 books and tens of thousands of photographs, artifacts and other materials documenting the Jewish experience.

Visitors to the Lillian Goldman Main Reading Room come from around the world, ranging from school children to doctoral candidates. The majority are scholars, but the Center extends equal welcome to those simply curious about Jewish history. The Reading Room is open to the public and equipped with microfilm readers and outlets for computer use.

A Public Service Committee, composed of representatives from the five organizations, meets regularly to discuss concerns and to hold cross-training sessions. Smaller committees oversee collection development and automation, while the public services staff develops plans for an outreach programs.

Located in Manhattan, the Center has been heralded as "a giant step into the future of Jewish scholarship" and "an unprecedented, unique phenomenon." In addition to its obvious contribution to the study of Judaism, the Center also represents a successful example of true collaboration among archives.

For information, contact Barbara Goldberg at (212) 294-8303.

MID-ATLANTIC ARCHIVIST

MARAC Service Award Request Form

This award is given to individuals who have been long-standing, hard-working members of MARAC, and who have made significant contribution to the organization. Those involved with MARAC committees (membership, local arrangements, program committee, ad-hoc committees, etc) have been past recipients. Any individual who has contributed to making MARAC a successful organization in any way can be nominated for the Service Award.

Name of person to be recognized. Record name as it should appear on the certificate. Check spelling of name and proper form of name (nicknames, etc.)

Outstanding service performed by individual. Provide specific details of MARAC involvement, prepare draft for text of certificate.

Submit to Outreach Committee by Friday, April 20, 2001.

Michelle M. Powers
385 Morris St. Apt 4
Albany, N.Y., 12208
MP7524@albany.edu (with subject heading: MARAC AWARD)

For Outreach Committee use, record date of action, decisions made

Outreach Committee Review:

Steering Committee Review:

Information given to MARAC archivist for preparation of certificate
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Completed certificate given to Outreach Committee for presentation:

Presented at Breakfast meeting: Submitted by:
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The *Mid-Atlantic Archivist (MAA)* is the quarterly newsletter of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Archives Conference (MARAC). MARAC membership includes interested individuals who live and work in Delaware, the District of Columbia, New Jersey, New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. MARAC seeks to promote the professional welfare of its members; to effect cooperation among individuals concerned with the documentation of the human experience; to enhance the exchange of information among colleagues working in the immediate regional area; to improve the professional competence of archivists, curators of textual, audio-visual and related special research collections, and records managers; and to encourage professional involvement of those actively engaged in the acquisition, preservation, bibliographic control and use of all types of historical research materials.

Individual annual membership dues are $35. The dues year runs from October 1 through September 30. Membership is not open to institutions, but institutions may purchase subscriptions to *MAA* at $35 per year.

Membership applications should be addressed to: MARAC, 6707 Old Dominion Drive, Suite 315, McLean, VA 22101-4503; phone: (703) 556-4905; fax: (703) 556-9301; **cpayson@kimbal.com.**

Material for publication should be sent to Susan Aprill, Archivist & Information Manager, Edwin Schlossberg Incorporated, 641 6th Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10011, phone: (212) 989-3993 x237; fax: (212) 691-0290; **saprill@esinter.com.** Deadlines are the first of March, June, September and December.

Advertising rate cards and mechanical requirements for ad copy may be obtained from: Bruce Abrams, Office of the New York County Clerk, 60 Centre Street, Room 161, New York, NY, 10007; phone: (212) 374-4376.